C 56.202 : P 81/974

fact sheet for the current population survey

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
FEB 10 1975
DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Social and Economic Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

what this survey is about

This survey is called the Current Population Survey. Its main purpose is to collect up-to-date figures on people who have jobs, those who want jobs, and those who are not in the market for jobs. The Census Bureau collects the information and the U.S. Department of Labor publishes the results. You probably have heard on radio or have seen on television something like: "The unemployment rate for last month was 5.5 percent." That information, along with other details, comes from this survey.

why do we need the current population survey

In a Nation as large as ours, and one that is changing so rapidly, up-to-date facts are needed in order to plan effective programs for the future. Although a complete census is taken every 10 years (like the one in April 1970), it is essential that some items of information be obtained much more frequently. Information on the number of persons working, the kind of work they do, the number of persons looking for work, and the like is collected on a monthly basis in the Current Population Survey so that we can keep abreast of changes.

why your answers are important

Your answers are important because, in addition to representing yourself and your family, they represent approximately 1,500 other households about like yours. In all, we interview about 45,000 households each month.

additional questions

In addition to questions about jobs, from time to time we ask questions about other important areas concerning the economic health of our Nation. We may ask how much schooling people in your household have had; how many of them are attending school now; what kinds of work different members have done; whether or not you have moved in the past year, and other questions of that kind.

how you were chosen

We chose this address, not you as a person or a family. At the beginning we did not know your name. If you should move during the period, we will interview the new family that moves to this address.

number of times we will visit you

We will visit this address each month for 4 months this year and again for 4 months a year from now.

the census bureau never reveals information about you

Every Census Bureau employee takes an oath never to repeat the things you tell us. He would pay a fine or serve a prison term if he violated this oath. The information you provide has your name removed and is combined into statistical totals like those on the other side of this page.

P.O.F. NO. 34 (1/75)

A recent survey (August 1974) shows:

U. S. Depository Copy

A-6: Employment status of the noninstitutional population 16 years and over by sex, age, and color

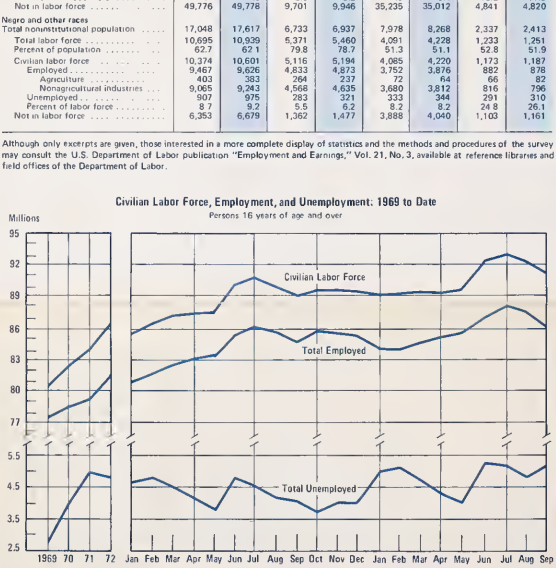
(In thousands)

Employment status and color	Total		Men, 20 years and over		Women, 20 years and over		Both sexes, 16-19 years	
	August 1973	August 1974	August 1973	August 1974	August 1973	August 1974	August 1973	August 1974
Total								
Total noninstitutional population	148,565	151,135	62,957	64,064	69,431	70,602	16,178	16,469
Total labor force	92,436	94,679	51,894	52,642	30,308	31,550	10,234	10,487
Percent of population	62.2	62.6	82.4	82.2	43.7	44.7	63.3	63.7
Civilian labor force	90,129	92,459	50,011	50,850	30,268	31,497	9,850	10,112
Employed	85,920	87,575	48,584	49,084	28,660	29,672	8,676	8,819
Agriculture	3,825	3,851	2,596	2,634	627	570	602	646
Nonagricultural industries	82,095	83,724	45,988	46,450	28,033	29,102	8,074	8,172
Unemployed	4,209	4,885	1,427	1,766	1,608	1,825	1,174	1,294
Percent of labor force	4.7	5.3	2.9	3.5	5.3	5.8	11.9	12.8
Not in labor force	56,129	56,456	11,063	11,423	39,123	39,052	5,944	5,982
White								
Total noninstitutional population	131,518	133,518	56,224	57,127	61,452	62,334	13,841	14,056
Total labor force	81,741	83,740	46,524	47,182	26,218	27,322	9,000	9,236
Percent of population	62.2	62.7	82.7	82.6	42.7	43.8	65.0	65.7
Civilian labor force	79,754	81,858	44,894	45,656	26,183	27,278	8,677	8,925
Employed	76,453	77,949	43,751	44,211	24,908	25,797	7,794	7,941
Agriculture	3,423	3,468	2,332	2,397	555	507	536	565
Nonagricultural industries	73,030	74,481	41,420	41,814	24,353	25,290	7,258	7,376
Unemployed	3,301	3,909	1,143	1,445	1,275	1,481	883	984
Percent of labor force	4.1	4.8	2.5	3.2	4.9	5.4	10.2	11.0
Not in labor force	49,776	49,778	9,701	9,946	35,235	35,012	4,841	4,820
Negro and other races								
Total noninstitutional population	17,048	17,617	6,733	6,937	7,978	8,268	2,337	2,413
Total labor force	10,695	10,939	5,371	5,460	4,091	4,228	1,233	1,251
Percent of population	62.7	62.1	79.8	78.7	51.3	51.1	52.8	51.9
Civilian labor force	10,374	10,601	5,116	5,194	4,085	4,220	1,173	1,187
Employed	9,467	9,626	4,833	4,873	3,752	3,876	882	878
Agriculture	403	383	264	237	72	64	66	82
Nonagricultural industries	9,065	9,243	4,568	4,635	3,680	3,812	816	796
Unemployed	907	975	283	321	333	344	291	310
Percent of labor force	8.7	9.2	5.5	6.2	8.2	8.2	24.8	26.1
Not in labor force	6,353	6,679	1,362	1,477	3,888	4,040	1,103	1,161

Although only excerpts are given, those interested in a more complete display of statistics and the methods and procedures of the survey may consult the U.S. Department of Labor publication "Employment and Earnings," Vol. 21, No. 3, available at reference libraries and field offices of the Department of Labor.

Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment: 1969 to Date

Persons 16 years of age and over



Source Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment and Earnings

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
A0000725596 72

C 56.202 : P 81/174

fact sheet for the current population survey

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
FEB 10 1975
DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Social and Economic Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS